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MEMORANDUM

To: Transportation Committee

Date: May 7, 2009

From: Bob Dean, Principal Regional Planner

Re: Scenario Evaluation

Attached to this memo are reports on the scenario evaluation process and results for two alternative scenarios being tested as part of *GO TO 2040*. The two scenarios analyzed include the "preserve" scenario, which minimizes capital expenditures but includes operational improvements, and the "reinvest" scenario, which includes substantial infrastructure investments. The "innovate" scenario, which includes ITS solutions and advanced pricing, is still undergoing evaluation and results are not yet available. Please note that all reports are drafts, and work on them continues.

It must be emphasized that these scenarios are meant to answer "what if" questions, and these strategies do not represent plan recommendations; they are ideas being tested. Please also note that specific major capital projects are not included within any of the scenarios, as these are being evaluated separately. This general approach to scenarios is similar to that employed in the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan; a description of scenario results from that modeling exercise is contained in chapter 2 of that document, available online here: http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=11664.

In each attached report, the strategies that make up the scenario are defined, and then the specific treatment of each is explained. The overall results of the evaluation of the scenario, which includes all of the strategies together, are presented at the end of each report. For each report, change in a number of measures are reported, including VMT and VHT (both total and congested, and further broken out for truck traffic in particular); mode share; and trip duration.

Additional measures will be calculated for each scenario beyond these basic transportation model outputs; this will occur after land use and other strategies are added to the scenarios. These measures will include all of the quantitative evaluation measures that have been identified for major capital projects, and are also expected to include other quantitative

measures in the areas of economic performance, housing cost, water use and quality, and access to open space. Qualitative assessments of each scenario will also be done to describe how each addresses issues like access to elderly and disabled residents, public health, workforce development, and other human and community development issues.

Because of the length and level of detail of each of these reports, staff does not expect to review each element of the scenarios in depth at the May committee meeting. Instead, a general overview of scenario elements and results will be provided at the committee meeting, and committee members who are interested in more detail will be invited to participate in an informational follow-up meeting or web conference.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion.